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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

GERRIT J. KEESMAN

PHB 33-946B

Serial No. 08/901,338

Group Art Unit: 2713

Filed: July 28, 1997

Examiner: A. Rao

BUFFER MANAGEMENT IN VARIABLE BIT-RATE COMPRESSION SYSTEM

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

APR 18 2000

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

- 
1. (Five times amended) A method of compression for transmission of encoded digital video signals having a variable number of data bits per image frame, comprising the steps of:
- a) detecting a first bit rate of an encoded digital video signal bit stream;
  - b) sequentially writing the encoded digital video signal bit stream in an encoder buffer at the first bit rate;
  - c) deriving a second bit rate as a percentage of the first bit rate, which percentage changes inversely in relation to changes in the first bit rate; and